

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Konbit Sante

CAP-HAITIEN HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

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A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Konbit Sante,

Greetings! The holidays are around the corner and it's the time of year to reflect on all that has taken place at Konbit Sante this year. Driven by our hearts and mission, our organization has been busy supporting the people of Haiti with all that the country has endured this year. Every person living and working in Haiti has been and remains impacted by this year's devastating events. The Haitian community suffered more than their share with the assassination of the president and resulting political instability. That was coupled with another deadly earthquake while still facing the repercussions from the hurricanes in 2010 and 2016, as well as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and other health crises. As such, it is difficult to ignore the uncertainties that lie ahead.

Despite the challenges, we remain hopeful that there will be a peaceful and positive resolution; one that works for all people of Haiti, not just for those in power. We continue to stand in support and collaboration with our partners at Fort Saint Michel (FSM) Health Center, Haitian Baptist Convention Hospital (HCBH), Justinien University Hospital (JUH), and Unite de Lutte pour la Sante (ULS) Health Center. Throughout the year we have worked with our healthcare partners who are on the front lines caring for patients in and around Cap-Haitien. Konbit Sante is committed to these long-standing partnerships so that we may provide for their ongoing needs.

Konbit Sante follows the World Health Organization's building blocks, that are necessary for a functional healthcare system. One of those building blocks is crisis and emergency support. This summer we worked side by side with our partners who provided direct medical care to victims of the earthquake in the southern part of the country. Medical practitioners from JUH and ULS traveled to the south after the earthquake on August 14th 2021 to treat those who were wounded. In the

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words of our partner, Dr. Mesadiou, "The ULS Health Center team couldn't have done this amazing work if it wasn't for the generosity, gracious hearts, and blessings of the people who came together during this time." Konbit Sante provided funds to the practitioners to use towards logistics and travel expenses. True to our mission, we supported Haitians who in

"Driven by our hearts and mission, we have been busy supporting the people of Haiti this year."

turn, cared for fellow Haitians in the country during a precarious and difficult time.

Most recently, the country has faced fuel shortages and its accompanying challenges, all in the face of growing insecurity throughout Haiti. Due to the lack of access to fuel, our healthcare partners were given no choice but to temporarily suspend the delivery of some services. This, in turn, impacted the ability to provide much needed patient care. Today, our partners are operating to the very best of their ability and in the days to come, it will be critical that Konbit Sante stay connected, aware of their needs, and vigilant in our response.

This year's annual report provides a glimpse into the support and relief work that has taken place in Cap-Haitien this past year. Despite this devastating year, we feel proud to share the accomplishments of our Haitian healthcare partners, who fearlessly and tirelessly work on the ground every day. This report also highlights our dedicated staff and volunteers whose efforts not only make the work of Konbit Sante possible, but who also make a tremendous impact on the communities we serve. My hope is that like us, you too will feel proud of all that we have accomplished together.



We are determined to continue our work with the people of Haiti. Without generous donors like yourself, our work would not be possible. From all of us here at Konbit Sante, thank you! You are what keeps Konbit Sante going.

As we close out the year, I'd like to acknowledge our staff members, board members, honorary advisors, partners, collaborators, and the community at large for standing beside us. We are grateful and humbled by your continued support.

Kembe Fem,

Rupal Ramesh Shah



WORKFORCE & HEALTH SERVICES

Our Champion for Change: Emile Eustache



Emile assisted Konbit Sante by providing transportation services to our volunteers and staff whenever needed. In October 2013, Konbit Sante was in search of a driver for the local Cap-Haitien office. At that time, Action Sanitaire referred Monsieur Emile to Konbit Sante because of his work ethic, experiences, and personality. After an interview and a few discussions with Monsieur Emile, it was clear that Konbit Sante would benefit from his dedicated services and we hired him as a permanent driver of our organization.

Monsieur Emile's main duties include management and maintenance of Konbit Sante's vehicle which is utilized for operational purposes. Every morning he checks fuel levels in the truck and determines whether it is functioning properly. He maintains a keen eye on security and safety, as it relates to overall transportation in Cap-Haitien and the surrounding areas. He is available to staff members, during the week bringing them dutifully to their various destinations, as needed, to perform their work.

Monsieur Emile has many wonderful qualities, one of which is that he is a great communicator. He is a collaborative staff member and easy to work with. When asked about what he is proud of in his time at Konbit Sante, Monsieur Emile described a time when he was able to work with a mobile clinic and assist patients with dire healthcare needs. He shared that this experience made him feel connected with a deeper sense of service to the people of his country. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family, specifically his children and wife, listening to music, and practicing ironwork, which is a form of creative metal work that is popular in Haiti.

According to Konbit Sante's Administrator, Dominique Joseph, "Monsieur Emile is a great colleague. He is respectful

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For approximately 25 years, Monsieur Emile Eustache was an employee of Action Sanitaire, an organization involved in responding to disease epidemics throughout Cap-Haitien. Konbit Sante had the privilege of getting to know Monsieur Emile in those early days, when Action Sanitaire was a key collaborator with Konbit Sante. Through his work, Monsieur

and very responsible. He is passionate about his work and conducts it with professionalism. He is always willing to learn new things that are aligned with Konbit Sante's overall mission. He is most appreciated by the team for his flexibility and reliability."

Monsieur Emile is proud to work for his country because he believes there is a lot of room for improvement. He is committed to his job and feels a strong connection to Konbit

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Ruddy Emmanuel Adeca, Dominique Joseph, and Alice Cockerham.

Saving Lives in the Communities of Cap-Haitien with the Administration of Vaccines



Sante because of the organization's goal to help those with medical needs. He has enjoyed his 8 years at Konbit Sante and is looking forward to working here for many years to come.

We are thankful for staff like Monsieur Emile who contribute greatly to the needs of the organization. It's because of him that our travel operations in the organization run smoothly and safely.

Vaccines are an integral part of the public health system. They assist in preventing the spread of contagious and deadly diseases such as measles, polio, mumps, chicken pox, whooping cough, diphtheria, human papillomavirus, and more. In this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become even more clear that vaccinations save lives. The community health workers at Konbit Sante's partner healthcare facilities work hard to ensure that the people of Haiti receive their necessary vaccinations.

Konbit Sante has had the opportunity to aid in providing vaccines to people living in various communities of Cap-Haitien. Ms. Josaine Clotilde St Jean, Konbit Sante's Community Health Program Manager, oversees the nurses and community health workers at Fort Saint Michel Health Center who conduct outreach activities associated with vaccine administration. Ms. St Jean works closely with the lead staff of her team to conduct training for the community health workers. This team collectively takes on the responsibility of educating the community on various topics related to public health such as hygiene and nutrition. Along with providing educational services, their main duties include administering vaccinations to children 0 to 59 months old and pregnant

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women. "Of course they always have the administrative duties of completing paperwork and preparing reports for the Ministry of Public Health and Population. Even then our team has vaccinated close to 2500 children, ages 0 to 11 months old in the past year," said Ms. St Jean.

Each community health agent hosts 4 vaccination rally posts a month and their goal is to vaccinate as many children, women, and pregnant women as possible in their designated community area. Through the in-part contributions of Konbit Sante, the vaccinations are provided at no cost. Commonly administered vaccines include the Bacillus Calmette-Guerin vaccine and vaccines for polio and pneumonia. The team also provides the pentavalent vaccine which is a combination vaccine to protect against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B, and haemophilus influenza type B.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Josaine Clotilde St Jean and Alice Cockerham.

In recent times, the team has faced a few challenges including the shortage of supplies due to the lack of fuel, political unrest, and high inflation rates. Despite these issues Ms. St Jean and her team remain hopeful. Ms. St Jean said passionately, "We will continue to work and reach out to as many people as possible in the community as that is our duty."

When asked about the most enjoyable aspect of her work, Ms. St Jean responded, "I have the satisfaction of providing people access to vaccinations, especially those who may not otherwise be able to afford them, and I am grateful that it will protect them from deadly diseases."

Rolling out large-scale vaccination campaigns in Haiti is a very challenging task. We recognize that it is the people on the ground, such as the community health workers and nurses, that are making a tremendous impact. Konbit Sante is proud to support the team that continues to do this work.



MANAGEMENT & LEADERSHIP

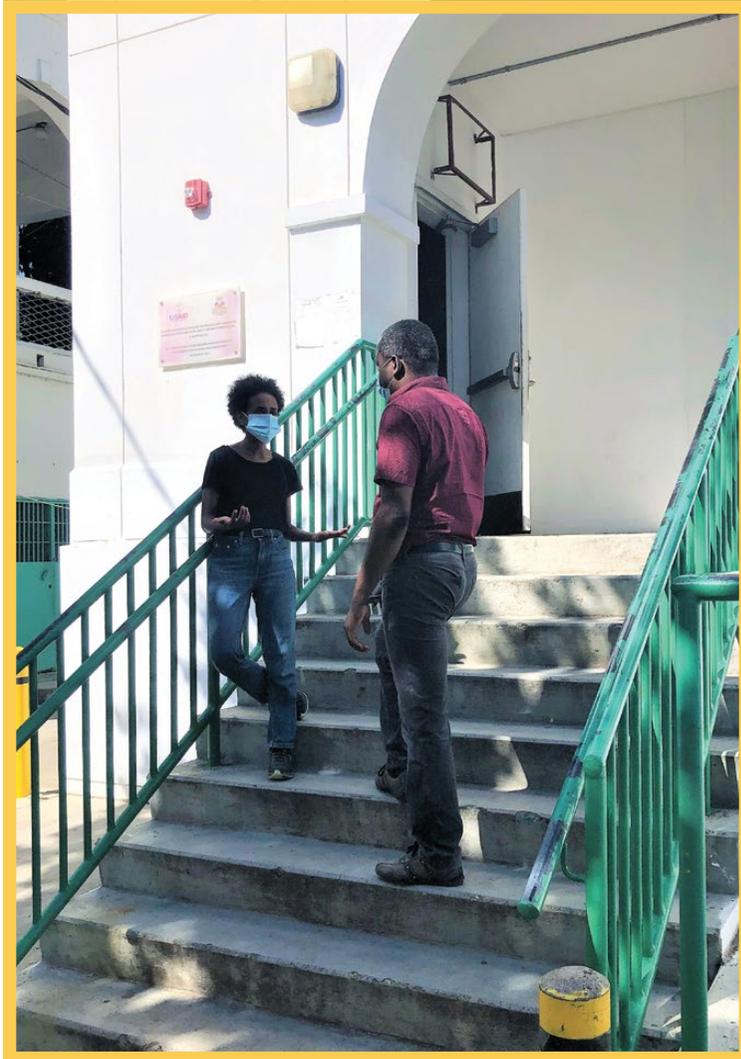
Strengthening the Pediatric Medical Resident Curriculum at Justinien University Hospital

Konbit Sante's Pediatric Program Manager, Dr. Rony St Fleur, has been the full-time, on-site educator and mentor for pediatric residents at Justinien University Hospital (JUH) for many years. Understanding that his trainees will be among the next generation of pediatricians serving children throughout Haiti, he has identified the need to strengthen the educational curriculum to better prepare them for this role.

Konbit Sante has long hosted monthly lectures during which volunteers provide educational seminars to pediatric residents and interns at JUH on neonatology, pediatric critical care and, most recently, pulmonology. The topics are usually chosen based on the identified learning needs of the residents. They are critical because they can address immediate clinical issues and are among the few formal educational opportunities available to trainees in the service. However, the lectures largely exist in a vacuum, in that they do not feed into or support a comprehensive organized residency curriculum.

While there exists a list of topics that the Ministry of Public Health and Population of Haiti requires be covered during medical residency, Dr. St Fleur wants to improve the educational process from one that principally relies on experiences and exposure to different conditions to one that is focused on developing the clinical competencies of the residents.

This summer Konbit Sante's Program Director, Tezita Negussie recruited long-term volunteers, Dr. Adam Silverman, a pediatric intensivist at Connecticut Children's Hospital and Konbit Sante's board member, as well as Dr. Daniel Sobel, a retired neonatologist from Maine Medical Center, to form



a committee to support Dr. St Fleur in this goal. Both have extensive experiences with resident training models in the

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USA, paired with a deep understanding of the realities in Haiti. Therefore, they are able to develop tools, structures, and expectations around resident education, appropriate to the context of our work in Haiti.

The committee of volunteers will identify program and personnel resources, didactic sessions, and clinical experiences and competencies needed to acquire proficiency in general pediatrics. The group is currently refining a list of fifty topics

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Tezita Negussie and Nathan Nickerson.

that will be the basis of the didactic sessions. We envision that interns, residents, attending physicians, and volunteers will share the responsibility for lectures and demonstrations, given the shortage of active faculty members at the hospital.

Investing in quality education for medical residents is an investment in a stronger health sector which ultimately leads to better health outcomes for patients.

MEDICINES, SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT

Healthcare in a Box: Consigning Containers to Support Partner Needs in Cap-Haitien

For many years, Konbit Sante has consigned containers donated by various organizations namely Direct Relief, The Dalton Foundation, Rise against Hunger, Walkabout, Wheelchair Mission, and Hope Health Action, along with several smaller independent donors and organizations. These containers directly benefit healthcare facilities in the greater Cap-Haitien area, including Konbit Sante's partners, Fort Saint-Michel Health Center, Haitian Baptist Conventional Hospital, Justinien University Hospital, and Unité de Lutte Pour la Santé (ULS) Health Center. They also benefit other nearby partner hospitals, health centers, and clinics such as New Hope Hospital and Serving Sante (SS), and a number of other healthcare facilities whose work aligns with Konbit Sante's mission.



consigned several containers of essential medicines and medical supplies, a forklift, meal and protein supplements, and personal protective equipment.

In addition to the containers referenced above, in September this year Konbit Sante shipped a container from our Maine-based warehouse, which transported all the materials for the USAID-funded project at Justinien University Hospital. Along with the project materials, we shipped air filters for the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, pumps for the water system, medical trauma training equipment, and essential medical supplies. There have also been several smaller shipments of equipment throughout the year including four portable ultrasound tablets and probes to support our Ultrasound Training Project at ULS Health Center and SS.

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The process of consigning these containers requires a group effort, and we are thankful for the team. Staff members that have made these shipments possible include Operations and Logistics Manager, Ben Doller, Administrator, Dominique Joseph, Finance Manager, Ruddy Emmanuel Adeca, Office Keeper, Odelin Pierre, and Driver, Emile Eustache. Additionally, Ronald Ocean, a local broker in Cap-Haitien has been helpful in navigating legal customs in Haiti. His work is deeply valuable in understanding the legal shipment structure and regulations for imports into the country.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Ben Doller and Conor Fay.

Consignments such as the ones described here allow healthcare facilities in Northern Haiti to gain access to resources that they otherwise would not be able to utilize. This, in turn, means the providers will be able to provide quality care to their patients. With this in mind, Konbit Sante is grateful to all the organizations and their respective donors who have provided medicines, supplies, and equipment to continue our work in Cap-Haitien.



In 2021, the contents of these containers included small pieces of equipment such as infant warmers, oxygen concentrators, office supplies, as well as large pieces of medical equipment including mammography and x-ray machines. We also



HEALTH FACILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

‘Revisioning’ Haitian Baptist Convention Hospital’s Building to Improve Solar Power

In collaboration with ReVision Energy, a Maine-based solar company, Konbit Sante raised approximately \$3,500 this past year to be used towards an infrastructure strengthening project at one of our partner hospitals, Haitian Baptist Convention Hospital (HCBH). ReVision Energy’s goal was to support a project on the ground that improves solar power.

According to the staff members at HCBH, the money will be vital in improving the infrastructure in and around the hospital’s generator building with the intention of providing a suitable and secure working environment for a new 90kw battery generator unit. Improvements to the building include (1) constructing a roof on top of the building to reduce heat, (2) adding ventilation to the battery room, (3) installing a security fence around the generators and battery



room, and (4) re-wiring the hospital’s electrical distribution system to create two load centers. These improvements will reduce the strain on the battery and solar systems and in turn, strengthen the overall system.

Ultimately, this project will render the hospital’s power supply both more sustainable and reliable. This is significant for several reasons. First, from a sustainability perspective, this means the system itself will require less maintenance as it would grant longer life expectancy to batteries, thus allowing the hospital to operate more independently for a longer period of time. It is also worth mentioning the environmental benefits associated with this sustainable move away from diesel. Second, from a reliability standpoint, this project will reduce power outages and power surges, which is extremely important considering the potentially detrimental impact these occurrences have on equipment operations, staff workflow, and patient care.

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The project has been developed through a collaboration between the hospital’s administrative staff, Phillip McRae who leads the operations at HCBH, and Hope Health Action, a UK-based non-profit organization that co-founded HCBH.

According to Tim Holmes, Operations Coordinator at HHA, “HCBH relies on international partners to support development, so having Konbit Sante and ReVision Energy, as fundraising partners is extremely valuable. Both HHA and HCBH really appreciate the work put into fundraising, on our behalf. The funds have allowed us to plan improvements we may otherwise not have been able to conduct. It will have a

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributor of this piece: Conor Fay.

genuine impact on the hospital’s functions over the coming months and year.”

The project is set to be completed by February 2022 after which the new battery unit will be installed. Additionally, there is an electrical plan in place to enable the hospital to become completely self-sustainable for power within the next few years. The improvements to the battery room represent the first phase of this multi-year plan, with the greater aim of the project being to provide larger volume of care, in a sustainable manner.

Strengthening the Infrastructure of the Pediatric Services Building at Justinien University Hospital

In 2018, funded by a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Konbit Sante supported the opening of a pediatric services building at Justinien University Hospital (JUH), its oldest healthcare partner in Northern Haiti. The pediatric services building includes separate wards for neonates, infants, children and adolescents, as well as exam rooms, a triage area, and two isolation rooms for the treatment of patients with highly contagious diseases. The opening of this facility represented a major step forward for the hospital in its efforts to serve the needs of the community.

Konbit Sante strives to consider the sustainability of projects that it puts in place, meaning that the job is not considered complete simply because a building has been erected. With that in mind, upon learning of challenges the pediatric facility was facing such as a broken water pumping system, poor ventilation, and frequent power outages, Konbit Sante decided to follow up to provide additional support. As one can imagine, the current set up can result in difficult working conditions which may place the lives of patients at risk.



The scope of the new project includes a number of tasks: (1) repurposing of an existing solar panel array (2) repairing of the water pumping system, (3) installation of air filters for the building’s ventilation system, and (4) the training of the

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facility's staff to utilize the new resources efficiently and effectively. The project is estimated to be completed next year.

Familiar faces working on this project include several of Konbit Sante's board members namely, Hugh Tozer, Engineer and Senior Consultant at Woodard & Curran, Robert Mackinnon, Retired Superintendent of the Yarmouth Water District, and Jeffrey Musich, a Retired Environmental Engineer. Our board members are committed to seeing this project to completion. According to Mr. Tozer, "Infrastructure is one of the building blocks of a successful health system." Additionally, he emphasized that this project extends far beyond the physical facilities put in place. For him, the work at JUH also concerns the human impact of infrastructure as measured by factors like working conditions and child mortality rates, as well as the ability for volunteers and board members like himself to transfer knowledge to local staff members who can manage operations at the hospital with greater independence.

There are several other key members involved in this project such as Brian Thomas who is the head of Justice and Mercy Energy Services, a non-profit organization that focuses on addressing poverty and injustice by providing reliable access to energy in and around Haiti. Additionally, our former Executive Director, Nathan Nickerson, is also volunteering on the team to provide assistance as needed.

According to Melick Derius, Assistant Facility Manager at JUH "Employees need to ensure that the building is clean



and well maintained, in terms of having consistent access to power so that all equipment can function fully. Only then can children get the care they truly deserve as the machines are vital in providing healthcare services." Mr. Derius complimented Konbit Sante's work in Cap-Haitien, as the organization strives to build effective health systems that benefit all members of the community and beyond.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Hugh Tozer and Conor Fay.

Implementing a Storage Depot Management System at Unité de Lutte pour la Sante Health Center

This past year, Konbit Sante's Operations and Logistics Manager, Ben Doller, Administrator, Dominique Joseph, and Unité de Lutte pour La Sante (ULS) Health Center's Executive Di-

rector, Dr. Maudelin Mesadiou collaborated on a proposal to facilitate organizational developments at the health center's

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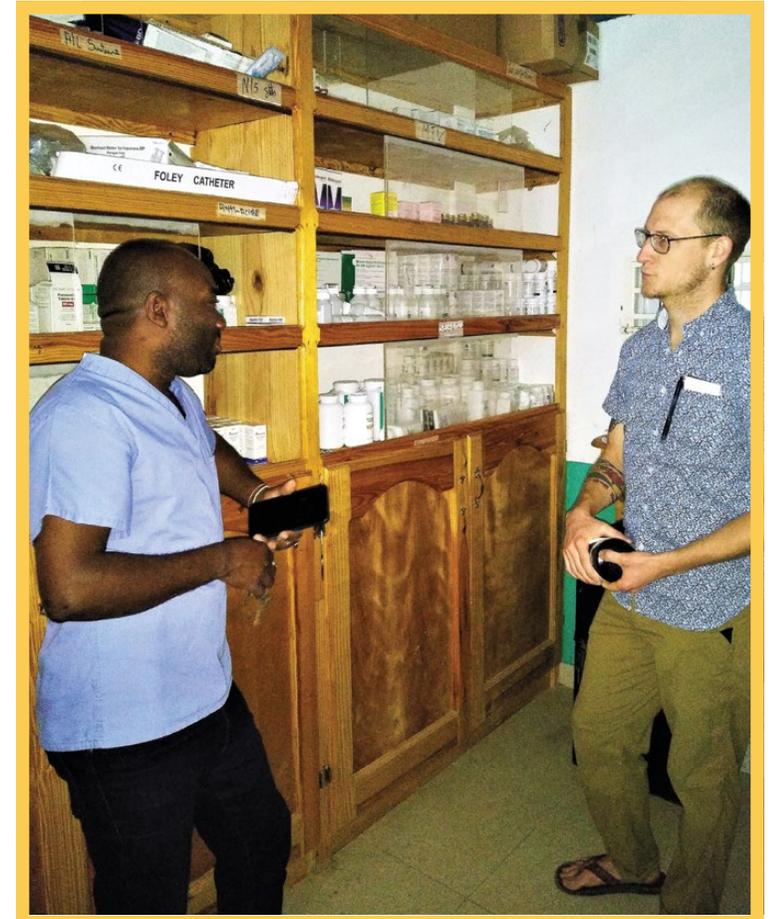


storage depot. The health center provides general consultation services, conducts laboratory tests, administers immunizations and medications, and distributes ready-to-use therapeutic foods to approximately 400 patients per month. Additionally, ULS Health Center offers healthcare services to the community via a mobile clinic that travels to remote areas to conduct medical exams, provide healthcare education services, administer vaccines, and recommend referrals, as needed, to the health center. More than 25,000 people in the community rely on the mobile clinic, each month, to meet their healthcare needs.

The proposal that was developed by the team would implement a formal system for stock management at the health center by providing shelves and basic inventory tracking tools. The proposal also outlines practices to help the ULS Health Center staff better track stock levels and more readily locate supplies. This will be crucial to the management of the depot, since a more structured process would allow the staff to better predict when and how much of an item is needed, well before stock outs occur. This project is also beneficial from a financial perspective, as the system will lead to a more efficient system of forecasting stock outs, which will prevent emergency purchases, that tend to be costlier.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Ben Doller and Conor Fay.

The shelves were purchased with donor funds by Konbit Sante and have been shipped. Once they arrive on site, implementation for the project will begin with a phased-approach. The implementation will require collaboration and a level of empathy to understand the day-to-day needs of the health center.



The team at ULS Health Center has overcome many challenges to operate in a low resource environment, and this collaboration aims to resolve a major barrier to further success. This project began in March 2021 and is still in its early stages as the process of shipping and delivery nears its end.

RESEARCH, DATA & EVALUATION

Utilizing Research Tools for Capacity Strengthening at Justinien University Hospital

Capacity strengthening is a central focus of Konbit Sante's mission. Ideally, this happens at both an individual and organizational level, because they are mutually beneficial and reinforcing. At the individual level, medical residents in Haiti are required to complete a research thesis in order to graduate from the program and be certified in their chosen specialty, but they often have had little formal training or guidance in how to accomplish that. Such projects can too often end up being simple academic exercises, with limited practical application. At the same time, hospitals, as healthcare organizations, have a real need to gather and utilize data about their services and patient outcomes that can inform their efforts to improve the care that they provide to patients. In order to support both the individual residents' and the hospital's capacity to gather, analyze, and utilize data that can actually have a positive impact on patient care, Konbit Sante has once again partnered with The Haiti Medical Education (HME) Project to offer a course entitled "Research Tools for Quality Improvement" at the Justinien University Hospital (JUH).

Due to the pandemic, the traditional face-to-face classes that we conducted in the past were modified to include a series of short video-taped lectures presented in French that residents are able to access online without gathering as a group in a closed space. Dr. Jean Geto Dube, the Executive Director of JUH, also participated as a lecturer. In spite of the challenging context, six final year residents and one faculty

member representing pediatrics and orthopedics services are participating.

The lectures and homework assignments are designed to lead the participants through the research process in a step-by-step fashion, and are augmented by weekly intensive discussion sessions conducted in Haitian Creole. Konbit Sante and HME Project staff and volunteers review the lecture content with each group of researchers, and support them through the process of formulating research questions focused on issues in their services that they have identified, and through the design and implementation of their research to answer those questions. The course is scheduled to be completed in December 2021.

In addition to the individual residents learning new skills that they will be able to apply throughout their careers, practical research projects can inform the development of new strategies to improve outcomes for patients in their care. Konbit Sante's long-term relationship with the JUH, makes it well-positioned to support such quality improvement efforts at the service level based on their research findings, even after the residents have graduated and moved on to other sites and programs. This course contributes towards the hospital leadership team's long-term vision of creating a cadre of healthcare professionals who can use research tools to improve systems of care.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Tezita Negussie and Nathan Nickerson.





CRISIS & EMERGENCY SUPPORT

Collaborating with Justinien University Hospital and Unite de Lutte pour la Sante Health Center to respond to the earthquake in southern Haiti

On January 12th 2010, Haiti was hit by a 7.0 earthquake that devastated areas in the capital city of Port-au-Prince and its surrounding cities. The epicenter of that earthquake was located near the town of Leogane, in the Ouest Department about 25 kilometers away from Port-au-Prince. We know that thousands of Haitians lost their lives. Many more were left injured and in devastating conditions, including a cholera epidemic months later, which killed many more. During that time, Konbit Sante was active in the response to both the earthquake and ensuing cholera epidemic. We provided support by partnering with the Ministry of Public Health and Population, local healthcare leaders and facilities, and offering funding as needed.

This year on August 14th, Haiti again was hit by a major earthquake. This time it was to the west of Port-au-Prince on the Tiburon Peninsula. The earthquake, 7.2 in magnitude, affected the southern Departments of Grand-Anse, Sud, and Nippes. Over sixty healthcare facilities in the impacted cities were damaged or destroyed, complicating the recovery efforts for survivors. To date, over 2,200 people have died and many more have sustained complicated medical injuries.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Alice Cockerham and Laura Friedman.

Keeping with our commitment to support local responders and our healthcare partners, Konbit Sante provided financial support to Justinien University Hospital (JUH) and Unite de Lutte pour la Sante (ULS) Health Center. The funds were used to cover logistical and transportation costs for the medical professionals that traveled to the south to care for patients. For several days and weeks following the disaster, the teams of medical professionals provided medical care to the earthquake victims. They worked collaboratively with the local physicians, nurses, and medical technicians in the south that were caring for the victims. In addition to providing medical care, the teams from JUH and ULS Health Center donated essential medical supplies that could be used to care for the patients.

There may be further assistance required in the days to come to support the victims of the earthquake. Konbit Sante will continue to work with its healthcare partners and collaborators in Cap-Haitien and the surrounding areas in order to address those medical needs when they arise.



VOLUNTEERING AT KONBIT SANTE

Konbit Sante relies on the contributions of its volunteers who are an integral part of the organization. Due to the relatively small size of our dedicated staff, the efforts of our volunteers are key in ensuring the success of our ongoing projects in Cap-Haitien.

The many ways that our volunteers contribute are broad and we do not, by any means, have a 'one size fits all' expectation for this support. Volunteers can work locally, abroad, and remotely based on the needs of the organization and their skills, expertise, and interests. As an example, some volunteers help to source and repackage medical supplies, some provide communications and fundraising assistance, while others provide critical technical support. While most of Konbit Sante's volunteer base is currently located in the USA, there are professionals in Haiti who donate their time to assist with various programmatic work.

Konbit Sante's approach to volunteer work operates on a 'pull' system in which resources are provided to meet specific needs, rather than a 'push' system where resources are provided regardless of the needs. Specifically, this means that volunteer skill sets are matched with the needs of the communities in which our partner facilities operate, thus representing a true 'konbit.'

Konbit Sante cannot adequately express its gratitude to those that have chosen to donate their time and energy to meet the needs of the Cap-Haitien community. Without our volunteers, we wouldn't be able to continue our work in Cap-Haitien. We remain thankful to all volunteers of Konbit Sante, past and present.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Ben Doller and Conor Fay.

Currently, Konbit Sante's Operations and Logistics Manager, Ben Doller, has been overseeing the organization's volunteer team. Ben tells us, "Volunteers are colleagues and we learn as much from them as they do from us. They support our work and are invaluable to the success of this organization."

At this time, the organization is seeking support from volunteers who have experience in information technology, biomedical repairs, and teaching English. Not all volunteers need to be experts in any of the aforementioned areas. We would welcome anyone that is interested in exploring these opportunities and look forward to hearing from you.



Volunteer Spotlight: Dr. Victor Herson



Dr. Herson made his first trip to Cap-Haitien in 2014, and focused on assessing the major causes of neonatal death and establishing priorities for intervention. He stated, "I was impressed with the partnership Konbit Sante had created with the pediatric services at JUH and the possibility of making a measurable impact on mortality and morbidity was exciting. I was hooked!" Since that first trip, he has been on several trips focused on teaching and training for the residents and nurses. He has worked on implementing a new program on the utilization of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) for newborns in respiratory distress. In addition, he has participated remotely in monthly reviews of newborn mortality, aimed at identifying clinical opportunities for improvement.

Dr. Herson shared, "I admire Konbit Sante's commitment to build local talent, capacity, and resources both at JUH and in the surrounding community hospitals. In contrast to the 'flying in and flying out' clinics, this model requires the kind of long-term commitment and development of strong, trusted relationships which is a feature of Konbit Sante's culture." He added, "Konbit Sante's principle in conducting the work on the ground, is to accept and embrace the idea that understanding the local culture is critical to the success of its mission." During his time, Dr. Herson has been able to work with staff from Konbit Sante who exemplify these virtues, particularly Tezita Negussie, Konbit Sante's Program Director, and Nathan Nickerson, Konbit Sante's former Executive Director and current Strategic Advisor. He stated, "It isn't always easy and there are lots of frustrations, but the short term successes and a focus on the long-term vision keeps me motivated to remain involved. I'm grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this organization."

Before becoming a volunteer for Konbit Sante, Dr. Victor Herson worked as a neonatologist for many years. A neonatologist generally provides care by diagnosing and treating newborns with conditions such as breathing disorders, infections, and birth defects, and consulting with obstetricians, pediatricians, and family medicine physicians about conditions affecting newborn infants. As his career started to wind down, Dr. Herson began to think of ways to productively use his experience and knowledge in a volunteer setting. A colleague at Connecticut Children's Hospital, Dr. Adam Silverman, who is also a Konbit Sante board member, happened to reach out asking if Dr. Herson knew any neonatologists interested in partnering with him in Konbit Sante's efforts to reduce neonatal mortality rates at Justinien University Hospital (JUH) in Cap-Haitien. He responded, "Yes, I do, me!" And so began the relationship between Dr. Herson and Konbit Sante.

We extend our gratitude to the primary contributors of this piece: Alice Cockerham.

VOLUNTEERS

We acknowledge the following volunteers who have made our work possible this past year.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Aimie Chase | Jane Greenberg |
| Alex Brevil | Jesse Abelson |
| Amara Lynch | Joseph Adrien Emmanuel Demes |
| Aubrey Schwoerer | Kashif Hoda |
| Caesy Bartlett | Laalitha Surapaneni |
| Carlos Sabogal | Laura Friedman |
| Cathy Caron | Leigh Greenberg |
| Christina Alva | Lynne Lovett |
| Conor Fay | Marianne Ringel |
| Daniel Sobel | Michael Canarie |
| David LaQuerre | Michael Kilmartin |
| Deborah Patten | Nan Nickerson |
| Dick (Richard) Lemieux | Nathan Nickerson |
| Emily Healy | Richard Williams |
| Erica Felker-Kantor | Ryan Denison |
| Frances Zilkha | Sarah Sorenson Coppi |
| Gary LaClaire | Shilpa Atnoor |
| Gerard Tiffault | Steve Connolly |
| Hillary Smith | Tracy Rosebrock |
| | Victor Herson |

FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT

This Fall, Konbit Sante partnered with Earth and Soul Pottery in Hollis, Maine to participate in a Meet and Greet event. The owner, Sarah Sorenson Coppi, is a supporter of Konbit Sante and has been championing the organization in her community. Earth and Soul Pottery is a studio and workshop located on a family-owned farm. Sarah, who is an accomplished potter, strongly believes in Konbit Sante's mission and has been eager to share our work.

The event included individuals from the local community of Hollis and nearby towns. Konbit Sante's Executive Director, Rupal Ramesh Shah, and Accountant, Sam Purinton, participated at the event and met with members of the community. Shah spoke about Konbit Sante's work in Cap-Haitien with our healthcare partners. Konbit Sante also had metal art on display at the event, which is made locally by artisans and sculptors based in Croix-des-Bouquets, a commune located

in the Ouest Department of Haiti. The sold pieces generate funds that are utilized towards programmatic expenses in Haiti.

According to Sarah, "I am humbled by the ongoing events in Haiti during the last decade and the strength shown by Haitians in the face of overwhelming challenges." From her first introduction to the organization, Sarah shared that she has been drawn to Konbit Sante. She recognizes that Haiti is vulnerable for a number of reasons which creates a significant need for support. She also feels that there is potential for one person to make a difference there.

We are thankful for the successful event and look forward to more collaborations that help to share our name and good work in other communities. Sarah remains a key member of our Konbit Sante family of supporters and we appreciate her and her team at Earth and Soul Pottery.

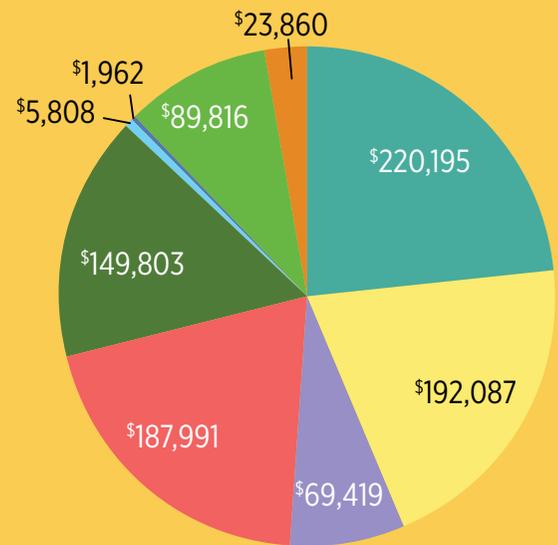
We extend our gratitude to the primary contributor of this piece: Laura Friedman.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

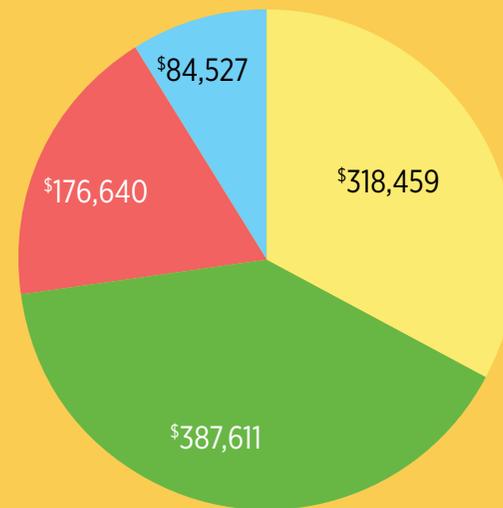
October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

TOTAL EXPENSES \$940,941



Medicines, Supplies, & Equipment	23%
Workforce & Health Services	20%
Fundraising	7%
Administration	20%
Health Facility Infrastructure	16%
Crisis & Emergency Support	1%
Research, Data, & Evaluation	<1%
Health Program Management	10%
General Program Expenses	3%

TOTAL INCOME \$967,238*



Donations	33%
Foundations + Grants	40%
In-Kind Contributions	18%
Miscellaneous	9%

*Revenue does not reflect value of volunteer time and skills contributed. For full financial information, including Form 990s, please visit: konbitsante.org/financial-information

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Rupal Ramesh Shah, Executive Director
 Dominique Joseph, Administrator
 Emile Eustache, Office Driver
 Odelin Pierre, Office and Apartment Keeper
 Ben Doller, Operations and Logistics Manager
 Tezita Negussie, Program Director
 Rony St Fleur, Pediatrics Program Manager
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 Sam Purinton, Accountant
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PITI PITI, ZWAZO FÈ NICH

(Little by little, the bird builds its nest)

Individually, we can accomplish a little

Together, we can accomplish a lot

Mesi anpil
(Many thanks)

